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Decrease of cholera in Manila—Spread of cholera by overland railway travel.

Week ended July 28, 1906. Quarantinable diseases reported for the city of Manila as follows:

Smallpox.—One case, no deaths.

Cholera.—Fifty-six cases, 51 deaths.

During the same period cholera was reported from the provinces as follows:

Province.	Cases.	Deaths.
Bulacan.....	162	108
Cavite.....	19	21
Laguna.....	19	17
Nueva Ecija.....	10	5
Pampanga.....	155	109
Pangasinan.....	5	5
Rizal.....	163	64
Tarlac.....	2	2
Tayabas.....	11	2
Total	546	323

It is very satisfactory to state that during the week covered by this report there was a reduction of 14 cases and 9 deaths from the number reported for the city of Manila for the preceding week. This being the season of the year in which cholera in the past has always been at its worst, the steady decline in the number of cases during the past three weeks indicates that the outlook for still further improvement in the near future in the cholera situation is very encouraging.

In the provinces the disease has remained about stationary. It has been almost entirely eradicated in the province of Rizal, but there has been an increase in the number of cases in Bulacan to offset the improvement in Rizal.

One particularly disquieting feature of the situation in the provinces is that cholera has traveled overland over the new road which has recently been opened from the province of Laguna to the sea. The disease made its appearance almost simultaneously at the ports of Pagbilao and Lucena in the province of Tayabas. Owing to the fact that it is impossible to give that careful attention to outgoing vessels leaving these ports which is given to vessels leaving Manila, it is feared that the disease may be carried by small sailing vessels to near-by islands, from which it may again spread thruout the Philippine Archipelago, as was the case in 1902.

The bureau of health has taken most vigorous measures to combat the outbreak at the ports of Tayabas Province. While the disease has not been entirely stamped out in the ports mentioned, yet there has been a reduction in the number of cases and no spread to other ports during the past ten days.

The impression here is that if the disease can be confined to the same territory which it has occupied during the past year, which section is embraced within an area of 75 miles from Manila, the chances of entirely eradicating it during the next dry season are very good; but if the disease should now gain another foothold in the southern islands it would probably be several years before it could be successfully eradicated.

During the week vessels bound for United States ports were treated as follows:

On July 22 the American ship *Amaranth*, with 14 crew, was granted a bill of health for Astoria, Oreg. After spending five days in quarantine at Mariveles the vessel was released on the 27th.

On July 25 the British steamship *Kanchow*, with 69 crew, en route from Amoy to Cebu and Iloilo, was granted a supplemental bill of health. The usual quarantine was imposed.

On July 28 the British steamship *Indramayo*, with 60 crew, en route from Singapore to Iloilo, was granted a supplemental bill of health after the usual detention.

PORTO RICO.

Report from San Juan—Transactions of service—Mortality.

Chief Quarantine Officer Foster reports, August 27, 1906, as follows:

Month of June, 1906. Vessels inspected, 24; bills of health issued, 34; vessels fumigated, 3; vessels held in quarantine, 10; passengers detained at the station, 87.

The vessels fumigated were the Cuban steamship *Julia* from Cuban and Dominican ports and the schooners *Ana Sofia* and *Corazon de Jesus* from ports of Venezuela. The steamships *Caracas* and *Philadelphia* from ports of Venezuela and Curaçao, the *Ripley* from Montevideo, the *Conde Wifredo* from Habana, the *Salvador* and *Quebec* from Santo Domingo, the *Antonio Lopez* from Habana, Central and South American ports, and the U. S. S. *Nashville* and *Abarenda* were held in quarantine during their stay in this port.

The subports report as follows:

Mayaguez: Seven vessels inspected and 13 bills of health issued.

Arecibo: Two vessels inspected and 4 bills of health issued.

Humacao: No vessels inspected and 3 bills of health issued.

Aguadilla: Two vessels inspected and 9 bills of health issued.

Arroyo: No vessels inspected and 12 bills of health issued.

Fajardo: Two vessels inspected and 6 bills of health issued.

Mortality.

San Juan: Seventy-eight deaths; 10 due to tuberculosis, 1 to enteric fever, and 1 to pneumonia.

Mayaguez: One hundred and twenty-three deaths; 10 due to measles, 1 to diphtheria, 6 to infantile tetanus, 1 to enteric fever, and 16 to tuberculosis.

Arecibo: One hundred and six deaths; 16 due to infantile tetanus and 4 to tuberculosis.

Humacao: Thirty-three deaths; 5 due to tuberculosis.

Aguadilla: Fifty-three deaths; 2 due to tuberculosis and 2 to paludal fever.

Arroyo: Twenty-six deaths; 3 due to paludal fever, 1 to tuberculosis, and 1 to measles.

Fajardo: No report.